

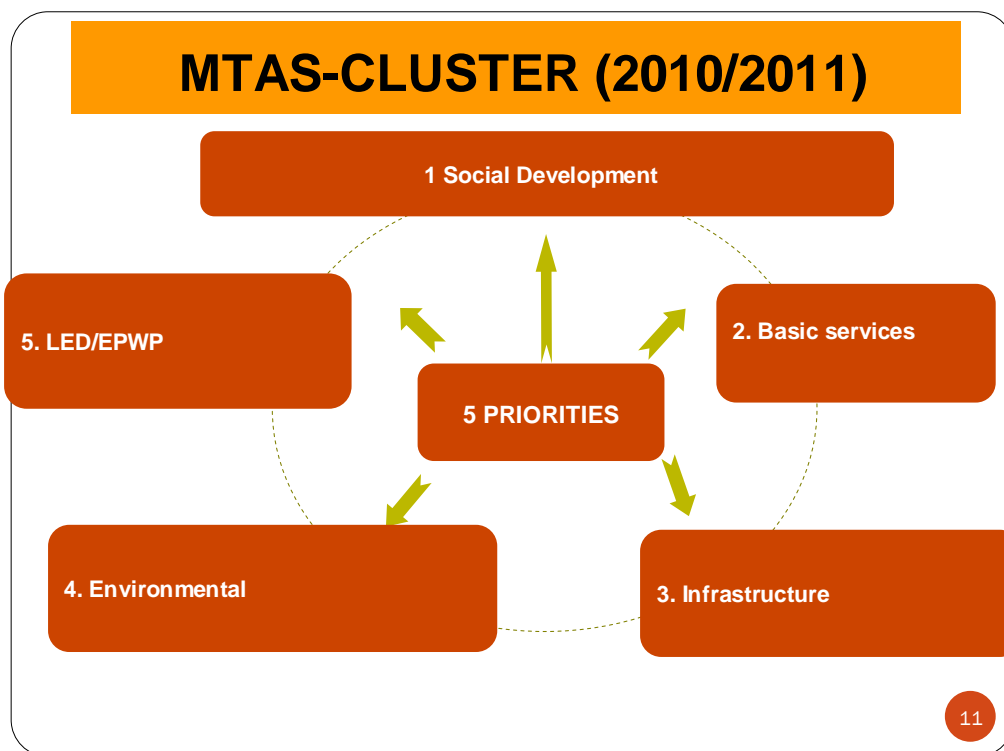
CHAPTER 8 KNYSNA MUNICIPALITY TURN AROUND STRATEGY

BACKGROUND

The objective of the Local government turn around strategy is underpinned by four fundamentals that will ultimately accelerate the provision of basic services and the promotion of good corporate governance. Knysna Municipality's vision and mission statement is entrenched around three key drivers of the turn around strategy

- (1) ***Restore the confidence*** of the majority of our people in our municipalities, as the primary delivery machine of the developmental state at a local level.
- (2) ***Re-build and improve the basic requirements*** for a functional, accountable, responsive, effective, efficient developmental local government.
- (3) ***Improve national and provincial policy, oversight and support*** for municipalities
- (4) ***Strengthen partnerships*** between communities, civil society, sector departments and local government.

The Knysna Municipality has identified 5 strategic turn around priorities that will enhance and foster economic growth, Tourism, Broad Based Black Economic empowerment ,establish job creating growth path ,embarking on sustainable rural development & urban renewal and bringing the poor and disadvantage to the center of development.



Knysna Municipality-

Knysna Municipality has mainly urbanized settlements with a number of rural towns that are located far apart. This creates a challenge in itself as how best to deliver equitable and efficient basic services and where to invest in infrastructure that will result in the most optimal rate of return. The settlement pattern of the Township creates increased demand for services, bearing more pressure on systems that are already overburdened. Rural town such as Seddgefield and Rheenendal and Karatara that is situated on the outskirts of Knysna has little economic and investment opportunities. Therefore economic infrastructure and maintenance investment will mainly be directed to the Knysna Central Business Area.

Furthermore, the settlement patterns within the Municipality have had adverse effects on the social capital (created poverty pockets, resulted in unequal access to municipal amenities and recreational facilities, low-quality living environments) and the economic livelihoods (costly transport to areas of employment and limited access to economic opportunities) of communities. Within the municipal area, there are huge disparities among rural and urban areas with regard to living standards, social capital, built environment, and access to basic services and economic opportunities.

The Municipal Turn around Strategy revolves around 5 strategic developmental priorities.

- Improving and prrovision of Basic services
- Improve and Upgrade of bulk infrastructure
- Social development.
- Local economic development
- Environmental Planning and Management